

HOMELESSNESS IN NEW MEXICO

AUGUST 7, 2013

NEW MEXICO MORTGAGE FINANCE AUTHORITY

**NEW MEXICO COALITION TO END
HOMELESSNESS**

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

ALBUQUERQUE HEADING HOME

MESILLA VALLEY COMMUNITY OF HOPE

METROPOLITAN HOMELESS PROJECT



AGENDA

1. Introductions/Opening Remarks - Joseph Montoya, MFA
2. Homelessness in New Mexico – Hank Hughes, NM Coalition to End Homelessness
3. Housing First Model– Hank Hughes, NM Coalition to End Homelessness
4. Heading Home Case Study and Local Housing Results – Doug Chaplin, City of Albuquerque
5. Albuquerque Heading Home - Dennis Plummer, Albuquerque Heading Home
6. CAMP HOPE - Nicole Martinez, Mesilla Valley Community of Hope
7. Funding Trends and Conclusion– Joseph Montoya, MFA

HOMELESSNESS IN NEW MEXICO

HANK HUGHES
NM COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS



New Mexico Coalition to
End Homelessness

HOMELESSNESS IN NEW MEXICO



Homelessness affects
many types of people in
New Mexico

New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority

New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness

City of Albuquerque

NUMBERS OF HOMELESS PEOPLE

On January 28, 2013 the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness conducted a point in time count of homeless people according the HUD guidelines:

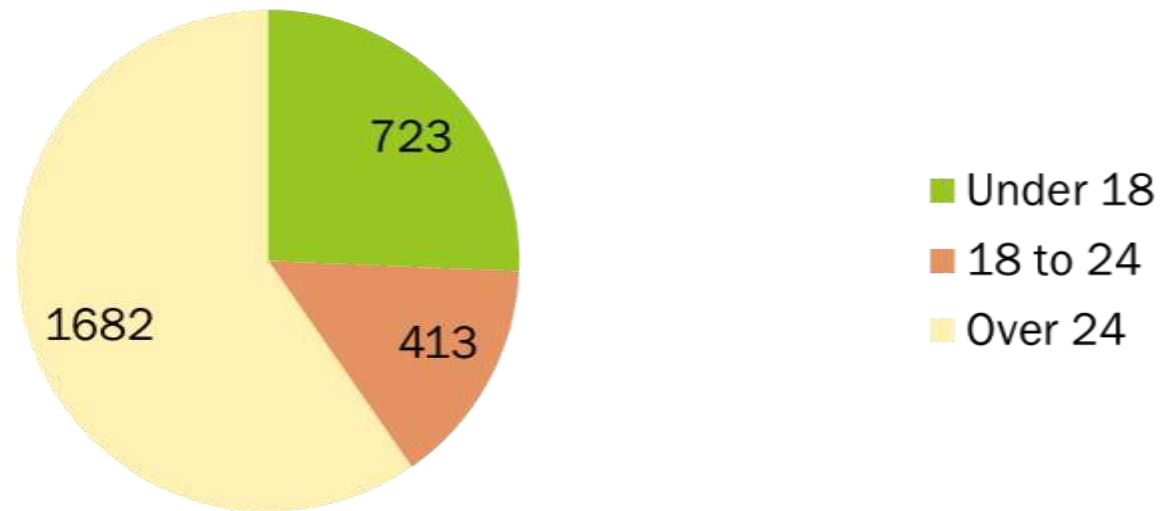
From this one day snapshot:

2,819 homeless people were counted that day (we know that there are many more people who are homeless because we can't find everyone on one day)

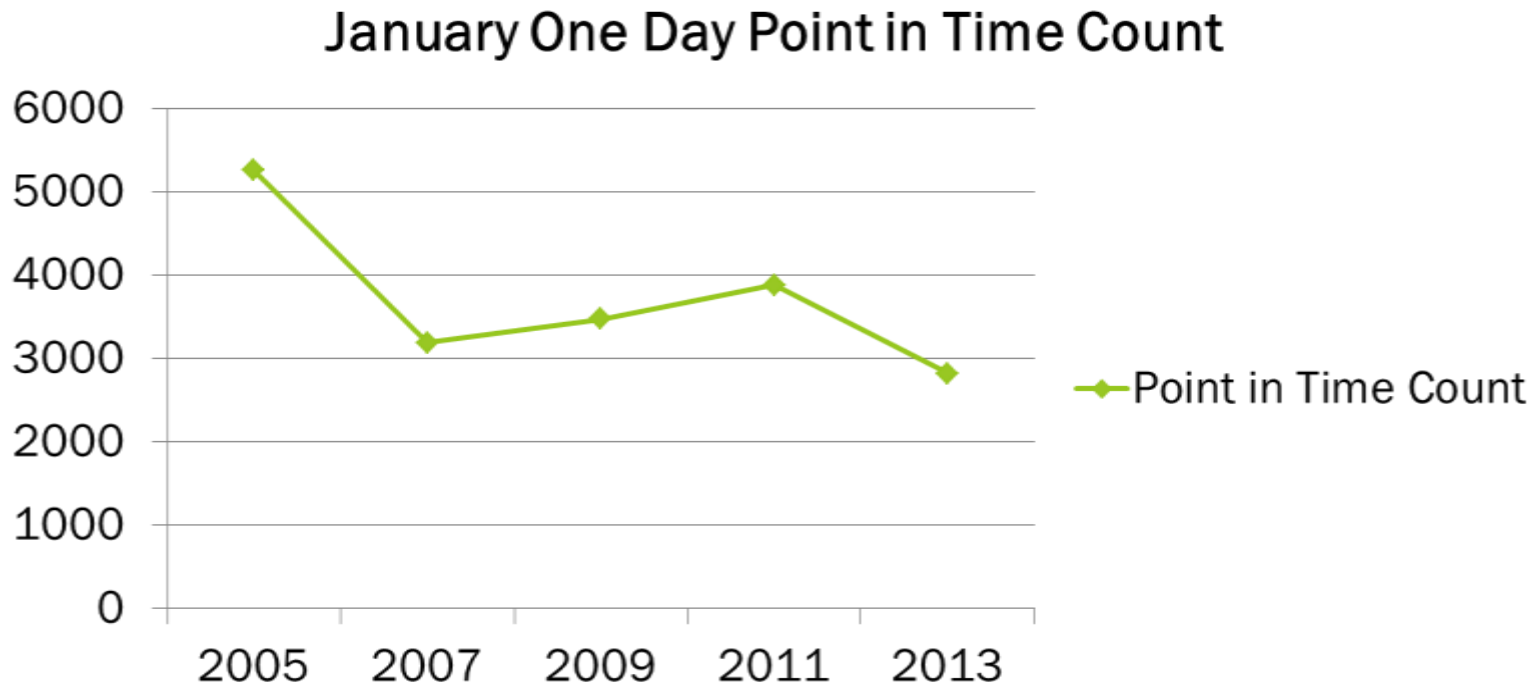
- 428 of those counted were unsheltered (living outside, in a car, etc.)

NEW MEXICANS SLEEPING OUTSIDE OR IN SHELTERS OR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

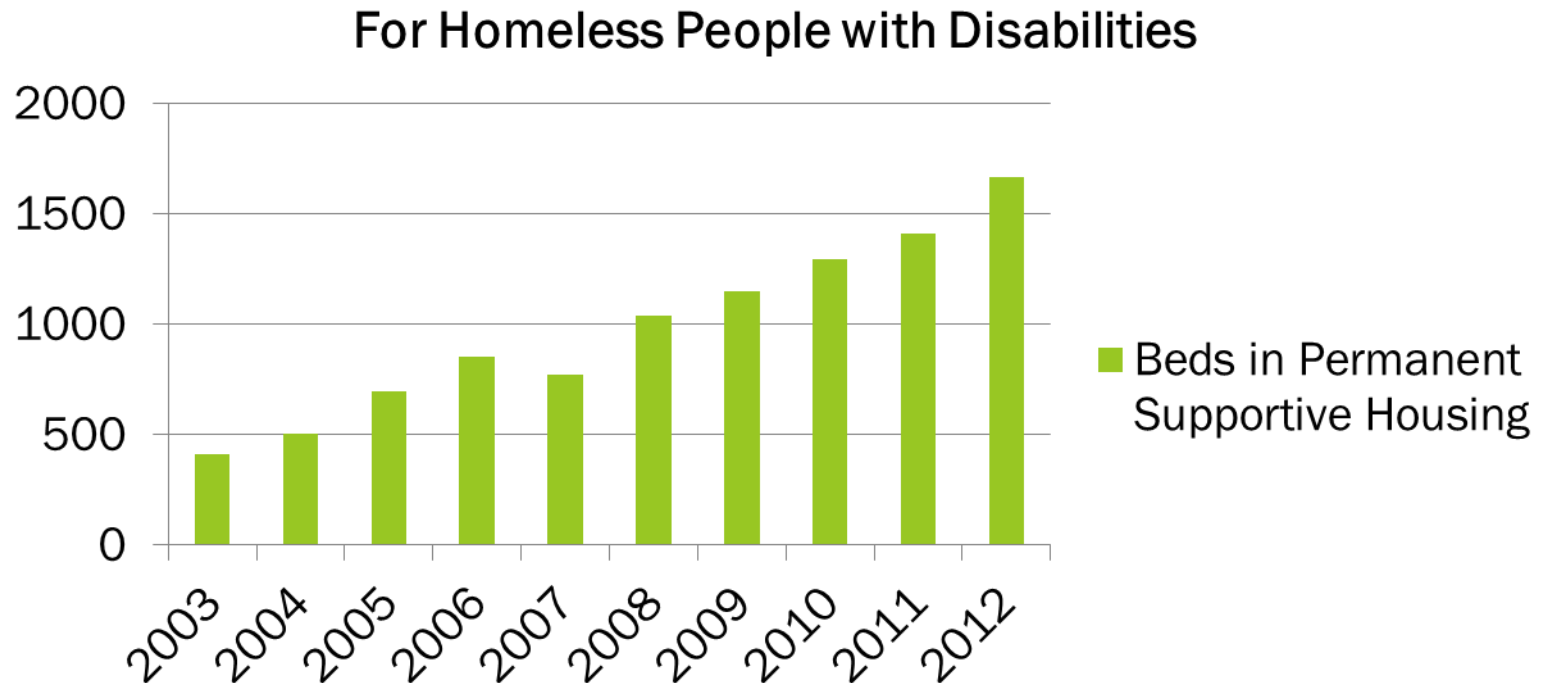
Ages of Homeless People Counted in New Mexico



COUNT OF NEW MEXICANS LIVING OUTSIDE OR IN SHELTERS OR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

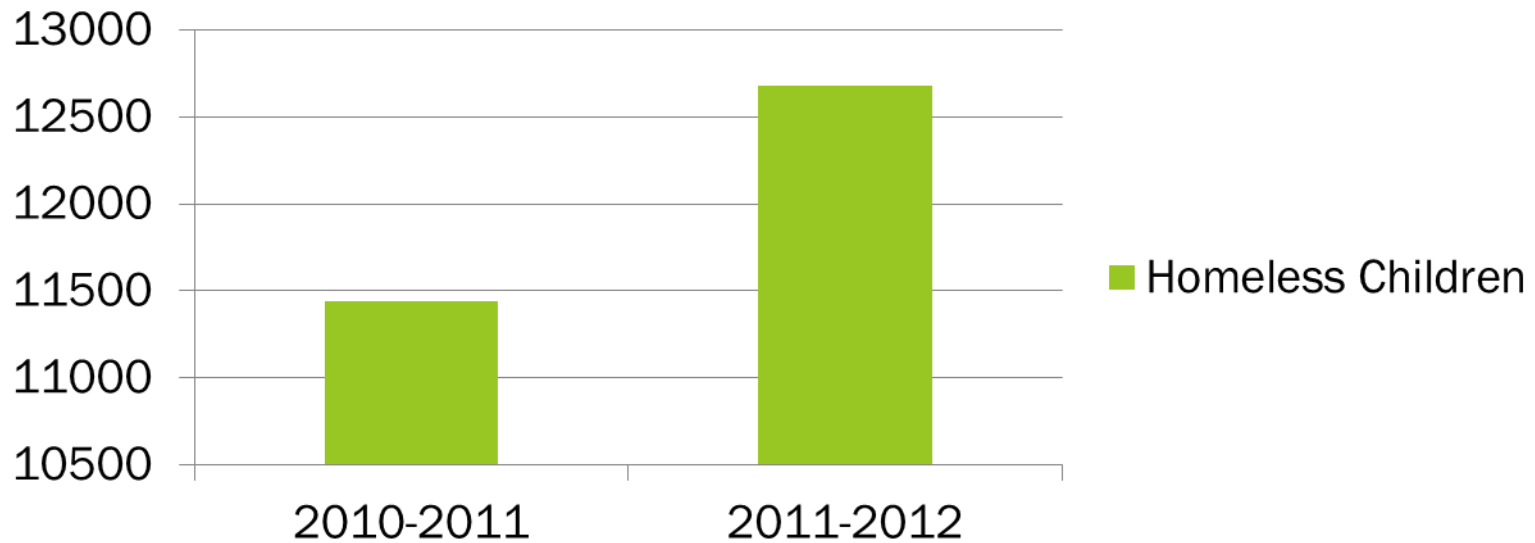


PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING IN NEW MEXICO



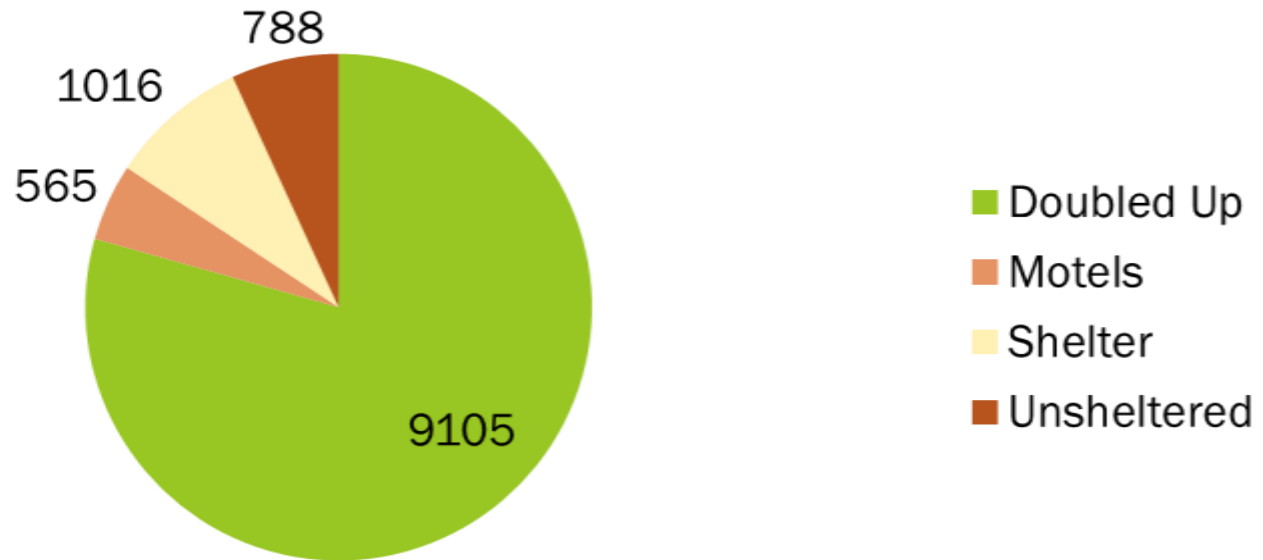
HOMELESS CHILDREN AS REPORTED TO PED BY SCHOOLS IN NEW MEXICO

Using the Broader Department of Education
Definition of Homelessness



LIVING SITUATION IN 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

Where Homeless Children in New Mexico Live



PEOPLE WHO ARE DISABLED AND HOMELESS



People with mental health or other disabilities need a lot of help getting housed:

- They need professional case management to help them obtain benefits from Social Security or the Veterans Administration
- They need subsidized permanent housing with supportive services to help them keep the housing

PEOPLE WHO ARE ABLE TO WORK



Need short term help getting back on their feet:

- They may need transitional housing for up to 2 years.
- They may need rapid re-housing, which is short term rental assistance
- They usually need support services to help them deal with the situations in their lives that prevent them from having stable employment and housing.

PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Similar to the programs for other homeless people but operated by the Veterans Administration specifically for homeless veterans:

- **VASH** – Veterans Administration Supportive Housing is a program for disabled veterans where they get a housing voucher from HUD and supportive services from the VA
- **SSVF** – Supportive Services for Veteran Families is a VA program that is rapid rehousing for veterans who need only short term assistance. The assistance helps get them established in housing with rental assistance and short term supportive services
- **Grant and Per Diem Program** – provides transitional housing for homeless veterans as a stand alone program or as a section of a larger program for homeless people.

FEDERAL GOAL TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS BY 2015

- Steady increases in funding for the VASH and SSVF programs
- HUD reports a 17% decrease in veteran homelessness since 2009.
- Veterans Administration programs are exempt from the sequester
- State Department of Veterans Services Helps Veterans get their benefits
- New Mexico Veterans Helping Homeless Veterans is raising money to help meet the federal goal in 2015

HOUSING FIRST MODEL

HANK HUGHES
NM COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS



New Mexico Coalition to
End Homelessness

HOUSING FIRST MODEL



Housing First is a strategy based on the fact that if someone has safe housing, which is affordable to them, it becomes much easier for them to tackle the other issues in their lives including substance abuse, mental illness, physical health issues, lack of employment, education etc.

With housing first there are no pre-conditions to placing a homeless person into supportive housing.

Housing First was pioneered to help homeless people with disabilities including substance use related disabilities.

HOUSING FIRST MODEL & OTHER INITIATIVES

HOUSING FIRST....

“...rests on the belief that helping people access and sustain permanent, affordable housing should be the central goal of our work with people experiencing homelessness.

CENTRAL TENET

is “that social services to enhance individual and family well-being can be more effective when people are in their own home.”

*-National Alliance to End Homelessness
Solutions Brief, November 2006*



Source: UCLA United Way

- In the past, ‘housing readiness’ models required program compliance to gain housing. If someone failed the program, s/he also lost housing.
- Conversely, failing as a tenant also meant losing access to supportive service programs.
- Housing First separates housing from supportive services. Nationwide, this model demonstrates greater long-term housing successes.

RAPID RE-HOUSING

Rapid Re-housing is a program where homeless households are helped to get back into housing quickly with short term or longer term rental assistance.

- It is especially helpful to people who are not disabled and will be able to earn enough money to pay rent after the assistance period.
- Rapid Re-housing has been shown to be beneficial to children since living in one place is important for their education and for mental health.



HEADING HOME CASE STUDY

DOUG CHAPLIN
CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE – HEADING HOME CASE STUDY

Preliminary Research

UNM Institute for Social Research

City of Albuquerque Housing First Cost Study, 2011

(comparing costs of one-year prior to housing to one year of housing)

- 95.5% decrease in jail costs
- 65.9% decrease in hospital emergency room costs
- 93% decrease in emergency shelter costs
- 40% decrease in medical outpatient costs
- Overall net savings of 3.8% (\$905 per study group member)

Housing First is expected to continue demonstrating cost savings, or at least cost neutrality...while making a significant impact on solving the problem of homelessness in New Mexico.

ALBUQUERQUE HEADING HOME

DENNIS PLUMMER
ALBUQUERQUE HEADING HOME



ALBUQUERQUE HEADING HOME



VISION:

Albuquerque is a city where experiences of homelessness are rare, short-lived and non-recurring.

PRIORITIZES housing and supportive services for people and their families who:

- Are medically vulnerable people, and
- Who have had chronic experiences of homelessness.

MEASURABLE Outcomes:

- Rare
 - A goal is set each year for how many will be housed. People housed means fewer people homeless.
- Short-lived
 - 60 days from first point of contact to housing.
- Non-recurring
 - Housing retention rate after 12 months will be 70% or greater.

Current Results:

- 250 housed since February 2011
- Currently working on city-wide coordination to assess length of time it takes to house someone or a family.
- Housing retention rate is 84%.



Demonstrable Results in Two Years:

	2011	2013
Average Age	53	48
Average Years Homeless	20	6 ½
Combined Years of Homelessness	1,433	482 ¼

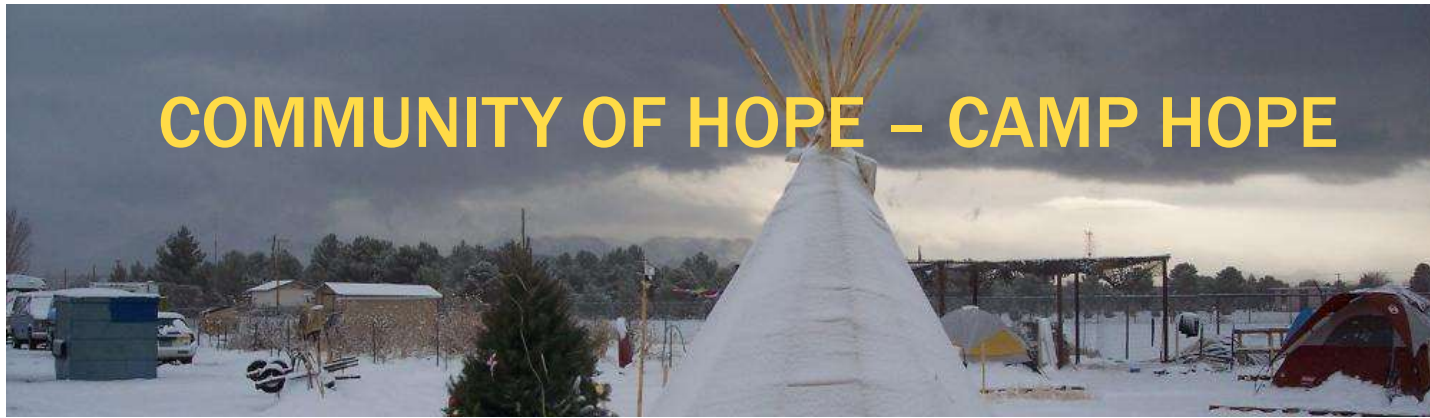
	2011	2013
Sheltered	1,243	1,032 (-211)
Unsheltered	387	144 (-243)
Total	1,630	1,176 (-454)

CAMP HOPE

NICOLE MARTINEZ
MESILLA VALLEY COMMUNITY OF HOPE



COMMUNITY OF HOPE – CAMP HOPE



Mesilla Valley Community of Hope provides services for the homeless and near-homeless in Doña Ana County

Camp Hope began in November 2011 as a response to inadequate housing program funding and the homeless sleeping on the campus of Community of Hope owned by the City of Las Cruces;

MVCH received municipal support to rezone the property to allow a tent city; an affordable way to keep the homeless safe while they transition out of homelessness and have access to services (4 other social service agencies exist on the campus of MVCH);

Tenants of Camp Hope immediately set up a security team and registration procedures;

CAMP HOPE OPERATIONS

Camp is capped at 50 people, including 7-10 Veterans at any time and up to 10 animals;

Resident Service Committee Requirements with a total of over 18,160 hours of resident volunteer hours

MVCH received Transitional and Rapid Rehousing funds and focuses on exiting people from the camp into housing; MVCH also has 2 permanent housing programs (Shelter Plus Care and Hope Housing First for Chronically Homeless men and women) and a Veterans complex that houses 20 homeless Veterans, totaling nearly 100 people in MVCH housing programs;

Camp Hope has served 269 people (63 women; 206 men; 54 Veterans); Average stay is 63 days; 96 days before housed; 66 housed (28 with MVCH grants); 3 obtained SSI through a SOAR case manager (7 awaiting determination); 1 enrolled at NMSU



THE FUTURE OF CAMP HOPE

In order to rezone, MVCH must have a final site plan approved and implemented within one year's time;

MVCH is receiving less housing funding this FY to exit people from the camp;

Camp Hope has kept the MVCH campus and its clients safe. Police calls have been drastically reduced;

The camp continues to *provide an affordable solution for the City of Las Cruces* in addressing the issue of homelessness;

MVCH continues to seek funding opportunities to provide for the rezoning of the camp and its continuance while also pursuing housing funding to exit people from homelessness into stable housing programs;

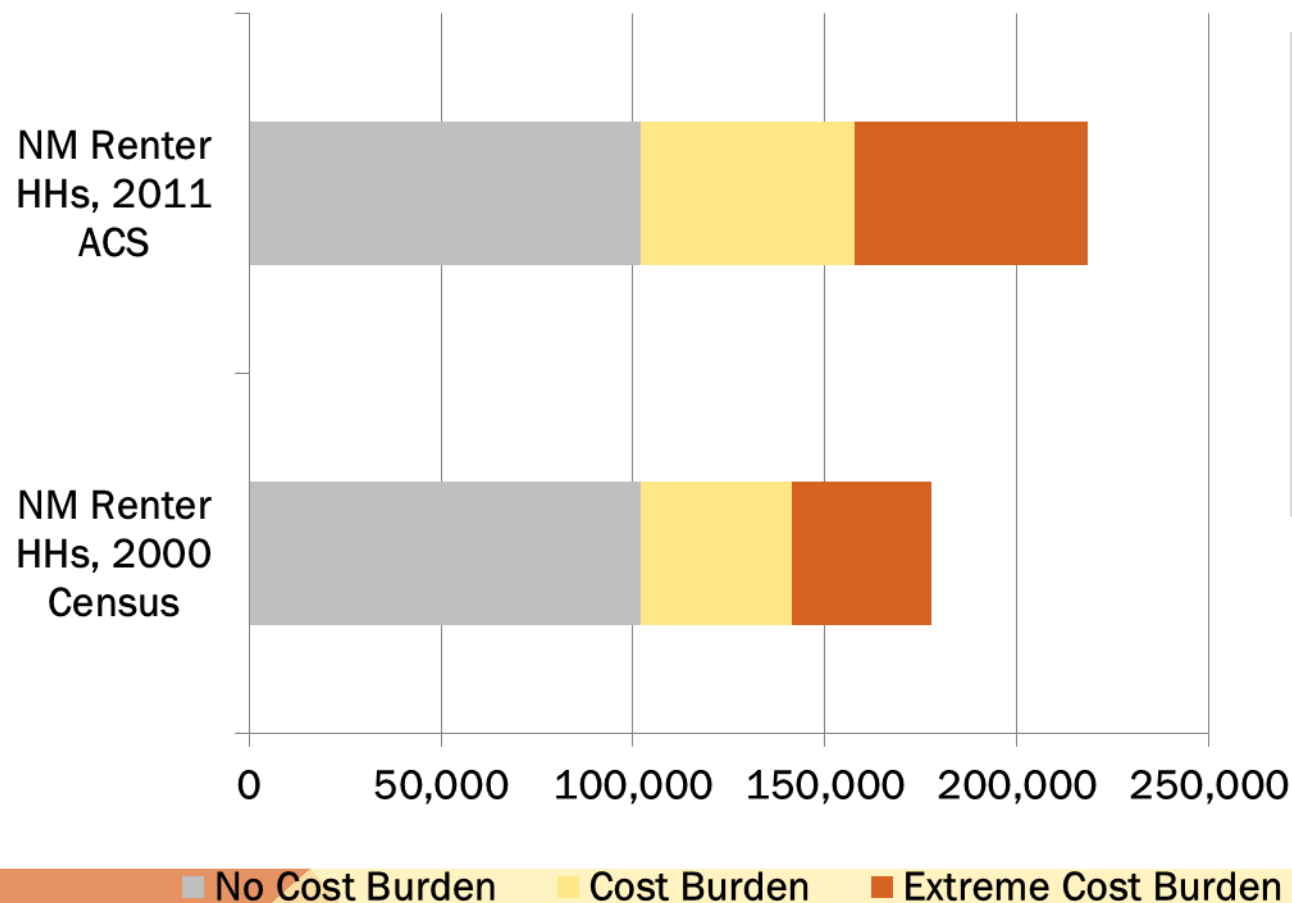


FUNDING TRENDS AND CONCLUSION

JOSEPH MONTOYA
MORTGAGE FINANCE AUTHORITY



COST BURDENED RENTER HH ON THE RISE

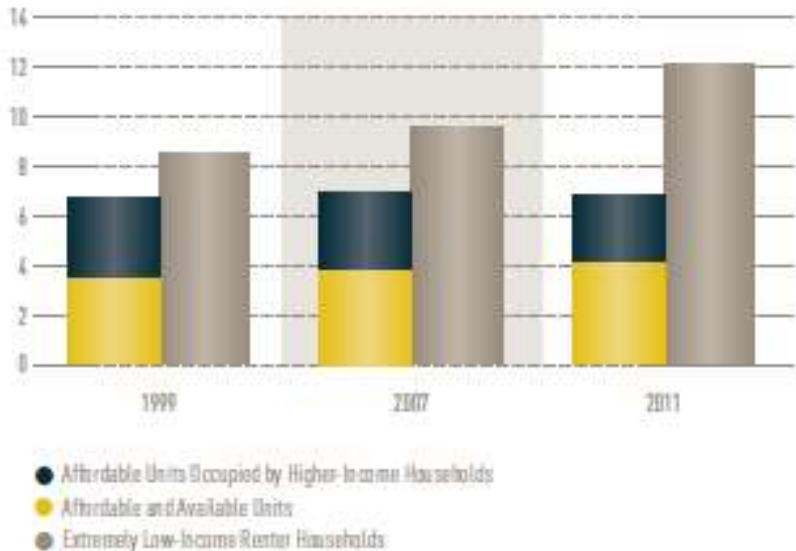


- Cost burdened renter HHs increased by 16,059 HH or 41%
- Extremely cost burdened renter HHs increased by 25,566 HH or 68%

DEARTH OF AFFORDABLE UNITS–US

The Gap Between the Number of Extremely Low-Income Renters and the Supply of Affordable and Available Units Continues to Widen

(Millions)



Note: Extremely low-income households are less than 30% of area median income.

Sources: JCHS tabulations of HUD, American Housing Survey, and HUD, Most in Need of Housing Needs 2010.

Gap between the supply of affordable housing and demand from extremely low-income renters doubled in just four years to 5.3M

In 2011, there were 12.1M extremely low income renters and 6.8 million units with affordable rents, but:

- More than a third were occupied by households with higher income
- 560,000 of the units were structurally inadequate

HUD-VASH

VETERANS AFFAIRS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Public Housing Authority (PHA)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013*	Total
1. Albuquerque	35	35	50			35	155
2. Bernalillo County				25	25	30	80
3. Las Cruces		35					35
4. Gallup			25				25
5. Santa Fe County		35					35
6. Socorro						15	15
7. San Juan County						15	15
Totals	35	105	75	25	25	95	360

**2013 vouchers include Round 1 only. Additional Round 2 awards will be made later in the summer.*

VA SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF) PROGRAM

New Program under which the VA awards grants to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives that provide supportive services to very low-income veteran families living in or transitioning to permanent housing

\$300M awarded nationally in 2013

\$1.9M in awards in New Mexico:

- Goodwill Industries: \$1,085,481
- NM Veterans Integration Center: \$779,242
- Mesilla Valley Community of Hope: \$114,369

Eligible services:

- Health care
- Housing counseling
- Rent
- Utilities
- Moving expenses
- Child care
- Transportation
- Legal
- Financial planning

HOMELESS FUNDING IN NEW MEXICO

